
Subject: Re: Remove 'AIDS Virus' Language

Posted by [UNAIDS_RAL](#) on Wed, 02 Apr 2014 17:12:41 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In 2011, in its Terminology Guidelines, UNAIDS recommended that HIV and AIDS not be linked directly and that the term most specific and appropriate to a given situation be used (See: http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/2011/20111009_UNAIDS_Terminology_Guidelines_MidtermAdditions_en.pdf). The outdated 'AIDS virus' terminology should be replaced with 'HIV', to avoid confusion and misunderstanding of the difference between HIV and AIDS which may affect quality of data. The term 'AIDS virus' is stigmatizing, due to the negative association of AIDS with a long, debilitating death that inspires fear. Research has identified fear as a key driver of stigma towards people living with HIV.
